



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office**

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/959,285	10/24/97	YAMAZAKI	S 35.C10698-CO

005514 MM12/0215
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EXAMINER

MACK, R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2873

DATE MAILED:

02/15/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Art Unit: 2873

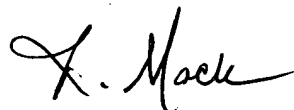
Interference

1. All claims are allowable. However, due to a potential interference, *ex parte* prosecution is SUSPENDED FOR A PERIOD OF TWO MONTHS from the date of this letter. Upon expiration of the period of suspension, applicant should make an inquiry as to the status of the application.

This additional suspension is being made while interim rules are being established with respect to examiner's interference preparation.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ricky Mack whose telephone number is (703) 305-6984. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from approximately 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956. The Group facsimile number is (703) 308-7724.



Ricky Mack,
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2873

February 9, 2000



Georgia Epps
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800

Date: February 9, 2000

To: Janice Howell, Director
Technology Center 2800

*Approved
JAH*

From: Georgia Y. Epps

Subject: Suspension on an Interference Application

This is a request for a second suspension in this interference application. The first suspension was initiated by the applicant's attorney. The second is initiated by the examiner because of the office decision to wait on the revised and interim rule(s) that are not in place yet.

Your approval is requested.